

Shoujo Sense



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<http://shoujosense.com>

嘘 解きレトリック

Usotoki
Rhetoric

by
Miyako
Ritsu

5

都
戸
利
津

Chapter 22



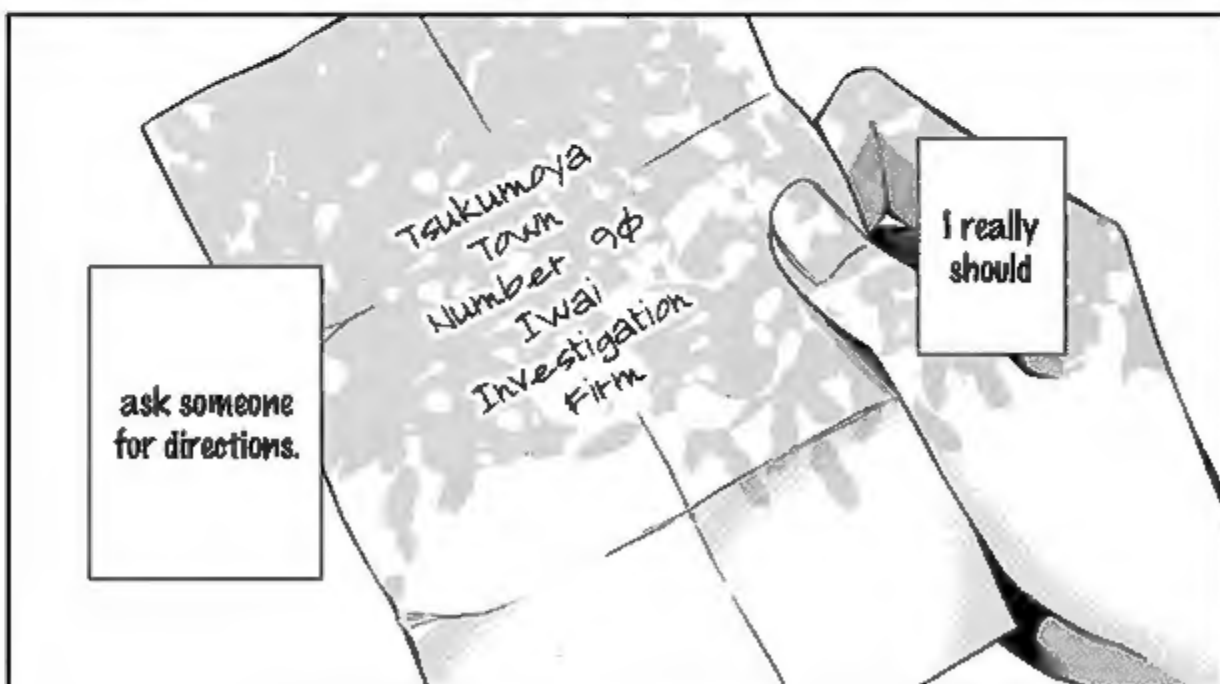




At the
beginning
of the
Showa
era.



jowa
jowa
jowa
jowa





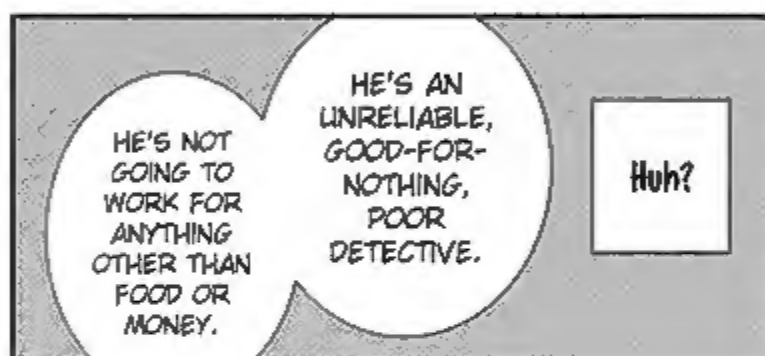


I SUGGEST
NOT TRYING
TO MAKE
ANY SILLY
REQUESTS.



NUMBER 90
IS WHERE THE
INVESTIGATION
FIRM IS,
RIGHT?

DO YOU
KNOW
ABOUT
IT?!



HE'S NOT
GOING TO
WORK FOR
ANYTHING
OTHER THAN
FOOD OR
MONEY.

HE'S AN
UNRELIABLE,
GOOD-FOR-
NOTHING,
POOR
DETECTIVE.

Huh?



is supposed
to be some
brilliant
detective...

SPRING
AND AUTUMN
MAKES HIM
FEEL THE BEST
SO HE IDLES
AROUND THE
MOST DURING
THAT TIME.

AND IN
THE WINTER
IT'S COLD
SO HE JUST
IDLES
AROUND.

PARTICULARLY
THESE DAYS
WHEN IT'S HOT,
HE DOES
NOTHING
BUT IDLE
AROUND.

But Iwai
Souma...



AH,
PLEASE
WAIT!

YOU'LL
JUST BE
GETTING INTO
A LOT OF
TROUBLE IF
YOU TALK
TO HIM.

BYE.





IF THAT'S
THE CASE,

SHOW
YOU THE
WAY.

I'LL

SIGN: URABE

YOU'RE
LEAVING THE
VILLAGE...?

since my
daughter,
Kanoko,
left the
village.

It's been
a year

WRITE
ME A
LETTER
TOO,
MOM.

SEND ME
A LETTER
ONCE YOU
FIND A PLACE
TO STAY,
OKAY?

I UNDER-
STAND MY
POWERS
NOW SO I'M
GOING TO
BE ALL
RIGHT!

SHE'D TELL
ME WHERE
SHE IS AND
WHAT SHE
DOES.

IF SHE
REALLY
FOUND A
PLACE TO
STAY,

SHE'S
LYING.

I'm
doing
well.

You don't
have to
worry.

That was
what Kanoko
said, but the
letters she
sent me

never had
a return
address.



KANOKO
HAS
STARTED
TELLING
LIES TO
EVERYONE
NOW.



"I'll be fine
if I lie and
keep my
powers a
secret."



SHE
DOESN'T
WANT
US TO
WORRY.

SHE'S
A KIND
CHILD.



She gave
up trying
to deal
with
people.

EVEN
US.



URABE-
SAN, YOU
HAVE A
LETTER.



Kanoko,
who hates
lying.

has to live
her life by
lying.



Tsukumoya
Town



chattee

Kanoko
is here.



YOUR
DAUGHTER
IS PRETTY
COLD, ISN'T
SHE?

ALL
THINGS
CONSI-
DERED,

DEAR...

No 9φ
Tsukumoya
Town
Iwai
Investigation
Firm
Utabe
Kanoko

When the
snow melted
and the fruits
of the butter-
bur plants
started to
bloom,

a letter
arrived with
a return
address.



IF YOU
KNOW HER
ADDRESS,
THAT
MEANS SHE
CONTACTED
YOU,
RIGHT?

thump



AND YOU
EVEN GOT
LOST.

THAT'S
...



HUH?
WHAT
DO YOU
MEAN?

HER MOTHER
COMES TO VISIT
HER FROM THE
PROVINCE AND
SHE DOESN'T
EVEN COME
AND PICK
YOU UP

Chatter



N-NO!

Right?

KIDS
THESE DAYS
ARE SO
INSENSITIVE
TO THEIR
PARENTS



WAS
THERE AN
INCIDENT?

!?

...I
KNEW
IT.



MY
DAUGHTER
ISN'T
LIKE
THAT!

He's mis-
under-
standing
Kanoko
because
of me!

After she
worked
so hard to
be in this
town.



I JUST,

CAME HERE
WITHOUT HER
KNOWING

He's even
misunder-
standing the
detective at
the investi-
gation firm!



YOU SENT
A LETTER
BUT THEY
DIDN'T
REPLY.

SO
SOMETHING
MUST HAVE
HAPPENED IN
THAT INVESTI-
GATION OFFICE!!
AND YOU CAME
HERE TO CHECK
IT OUT

IT'S
NOT
THAT
SERI-
OUS!



A letter
with a
return
address
arrived.

IS THIS
REALLY...
TRUE...?

SHE MET
SOMEONE
WHO
ACCEPTED
HER
POWERS...

SHE
WROTE THE
ADDRESS SO
CLEARLY

THAT'S
WONDER-
FUL

Usotoki
Rhetoric



To tell her
I was so
worried,

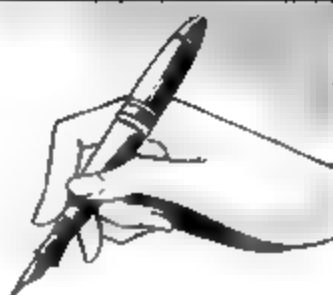
that I was
so happy she
found a place
to belong.

I was going
to reply.

I'M
SO HAPPY
FOR YOU,
KANOKO.



I wanted
to write
so many
things.



Dear
Kanoko,

But





I couldn't.

No matter
what I
write



I couldn't say
anything to
her face-
to-face.



I SEE. SO YOU
CAME WITHOUT
CONTACTING
HER.

Thank
goodness,
no more
misunder-
st...

it will
just be the
same as
those other
letters.

They could
just as well
be lies.





SO WHY
DIDN'T YOU
CONTACT
HER?

What is it
with this
person?

He's strangely
perceptive.

He's
persistent
with this.



Wha...

that I came
here without
meeting her,
it will just
make her sad.

I DIDN'T
WANT
HER TO
KNOW

THAT I'M
COMING HERE
JUST TO HAVE
A GLIMPSE OF
HER LIKE
THAT.

If Kanoko
finds out

THAT
MAKES ME
THINK



I'M NOT
PLANNING
ON MEETING
HER.

I JUST
WANTED TO
SEE HOW WELL
SHE'S DOING
FROM AFAR

NO! MY
DAUGHTER
IS A GOOD
PERSON!
SHE'S A
GOOD
PERSON!

He's deeply
misunder-
standing
things!

THAT YOUR
DAUGHTER
ALWAYS
GETS INTO
TROUBLE.

so you
don't want
to tell her
huh

SFX WAAAAAH!

AND
THAT'S
WHY I
CAN'T
MEET
HER.

My
daughter
Kanoko

SHE'S
A GOOD
DAUGHTER.

YOU
SAY.

SHE'S
A GOOD
DAUGHTER.

BUT YOU
CAN'T
MEET
HER.



き
やは
は
SFX HAHANA





BUT HONESTLY,

THIS VILLAGE IS SMALL, AND THIS IS THE HOUSE I'VE ALWAYS LIVED IN SINCE I WAS YOUNG.

THERE'S A PART OF ME THAT WANTS TO KEEP LIVING HERE.



KANOKO STILL HAS A HARD TIME HIDING HER POWERS. IT WILL BE THE SAME NO MATTER WHERE WE GO.

SHE'LL FIRST HAVE TO LEARN HOW TO HIDE HER POWERS

has a strange power that enables her to detect lies.

When she was young,

those powers hurt the people around her.



THOSE WHO HAPPEN TO HAVE STRANGE POWERS, DO YOU UNDERSTAND?

EVEN NOW AFTER THE MEIJI ERA, THERE ARE STILL PEOPLE MISTREATING

I THINK IT'S BETTER IF WE LEAVE THIS VILLAGE...

IF SOME DEVILS GROUPS FIND OUT ABOUT KANOKO'S POWERS...



There was nothing we could do.

All that power did

BOTH FOR US AND FOR KANOKO.

WOULD BE TO LEARN HOW TO DEAL WITH HER POWERS.

THE BEST THING TO DO,



was hurt
Kanoko.

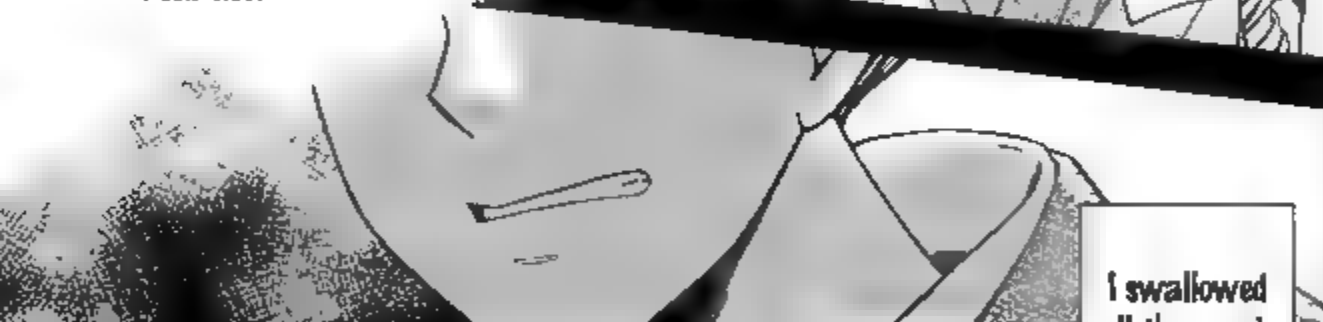


"It's not
your fault,
Kanoko!"

"I don't care
if you can
hear lies!"



WHAT
ARE YOU
DOING?!



I swallowed
all the words
I wanted
to say.

If only
Kanoko was
a normal
child.

If only she
didn't have
these powers.

Some
lie could
get mixed
up in it.

Because

So many
times.



KANOKO...!!

I've thought
about it so
many times.

I wonder if
I can really
talk to her
properly.



But

No 98
Tsukumoya
Town
Iwai
Investigation
Firm
Urabe
Kanoko

If I knew
where she
lives, I can
go see her.

I didn't
want
Kanoko
to think



that I chose
to write a
letter so that
she wouldn't be
able to detect
my lies.



Mom, I'm
doing fine
here.

I'm not
going to bother
you anymore,
so don't
worry.



Kanoko,
I missed
you.



What are
you saying?
Of course
you're not
a bother.



I wonder

if I can
say those
words.



Kanoko?



I'm so happy
that you're
doing well.

I missed not
having you
around.



Mom.

NO,
KANOKO!
YOU'RE
IMPORTANT
TO ME!

It's
not your
fault, I
under-
stand.

It was so
hard for
everyone
when I was
around.

I LOV...

That's
a lie...



I'd rather
not say
anything

AND ONE
NORI,
RIGHT?

TWO SOY
SAUCE
FLAVORS,

If I just
end up
hurting
her.



WE'RE
NOT FAR
NOW,

FROM IWA
INVESTI-
GATION
FIRM.

But

that's
what I
decided.

In the
end



I WON-
DER...

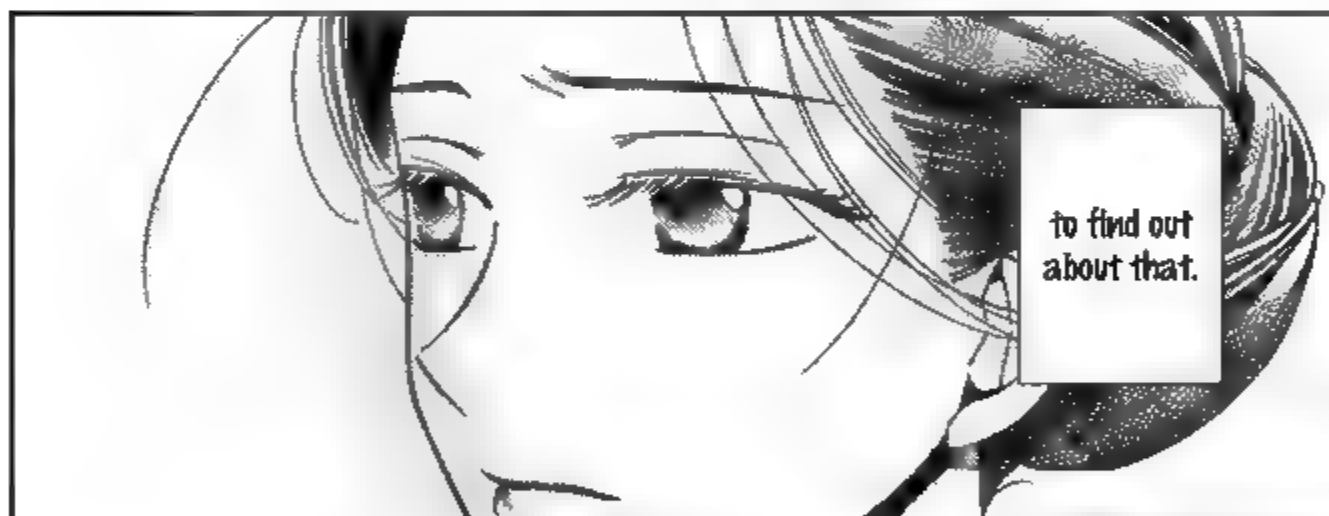




that I came
here to
Tsukumoya

now he
found out

Ah,



to find out
about that.

Why is
he able to
not hurt
Kanoko?

I realized that my
power of being able
to hear lies can help
other people. I'm
now feeling positive
about it.

can he be
with Kanoko
after
knowing
about her
powers?

Why

I'm working
hard to be
able to help
Detective
Iwai Souma.



HMM?
YES, I
AM.



ARE YOU
REALLY THE
MOTHER

OF THAT
GIRL IN THAT
INVESTI-
GATION
FIRM?

Why



AND
ROBBING
THEM.

THERE
HAVE BEEN A
LOT OF THESE
RECENTLY COMING
FROM THE PROVINCE
PRETENDING TO BE
SOMEONE'S RELATIVE,
GOING INSIDE
THEIR EMPTY
HOUSES

can't I
do the
same?

SEX DUNNN



IT'S
STRANGE.

NO
MATTER
HOW YOU
LOOK AT
IT,



AREN'T YOU
JUST AIMING
TO ROB SOME-
ONE'S HOUSE
WHEN THEY'RE
NOT THERE?
IT'S THE
PERFECT
CRIME

YOU SAID
YOU CAME
HERE AND
YOU DON'T
WANT YOUR
DAUGHTER
TO KNOW.

stare

NO! SHE'S
REALLY MY
DAUGHTER!!

Robbing
them?!!

Now he's
misunder-
standing
ME!!



I wanted
to come
here and see
Kanoko

without
hurting
her.

I DON'T
THINK YOU
CARE FOR
YOUR
DAUGHTER
AT ALL.

LEAVING
HER TO FEND
FOR HERSELF
FOR A YEAR,

YOU KNOW
HER ADDRESS
BUT YOU
DIDN'T WRITE
TO HER?

THEN
COMING HERE,
JUST WANTING
TO LOOK AT
HER BUT NOT
ACTUALLY
MEET HER

AND NOT
WANTING
HER TO
KNOW.

But hearing
it from
another
person's
mouth

AND THAT
SHE'S A GOOD
DAUGHTER.

YOU'RE TELLING
ME SHE DIDN'T
HAVE A FALLING
OUT WITH HER
PARENTS,

some-
how

WHO
WOULD
BELIEVE
THAT?



makes me
feel that
this is all
meaningless.

THE ONLY
PERSON
WHO WOULD
BELIEVE
THAT

IS
SOMEONE
WHO CAN
DETECT
LIES.



SOMEONE
WHO CAN
DETECT
LIES

CAN ALSO
KNOW THE
TRUTH,
RIGHT?

Huh?

BECAUSE

the
truth...?

Know

Did I

actually
tell him

that it has
been a year
since Kanoko
left the
village?

"Leaving
her to fend
for herself
for a year"



YOU'RE
KANOKO-
KUN'S MOM,
AREN'T
YOU?



YOU
BOTH
WORRY
TOO
MUCH.

AND YOU
BOTH HAVE
THE SAME
GESTURES
AND FACIAL
EXPRES-
SIONS.

YOU
BOTH GET
TOO CARRIED
AWAY FROM
WHAT I
SAY.



YOU
REALLY
ARE LIKE
HER.



YOU COULD
HAVE JUST
SAID YOUR
DAUGHTER
WAS WORKING
HARD AND YOU
DIDN'T WANT
HER TO FEEL
HOMESICK

BUT YOU
CHOSE TO
MAKE UP
SOME OTHER
STORY.



UM,
ARE
YOU...

So
then...



YOUR
STOMACH
EVEN
GROWLS
THE SAME.

PFT

SIGN IWA. INVEST GATION FIRM



THIS IS

MY
OFFICE.



This
person



WE'RE
HERE.

祝



DETECTIVE
IWAI
SOLIMA?

総領事事務所



THAN
TO HAVE
SOMEONE
DETECT
MY LIES.



FOR
ME,

IT'S
WORSE



TO HAVE
SOMEONE
NOT BELIEVE
MY TRUTH

"I wonder
how
Detective
Iwai"

"was able
to get
along so
well with
Kanoko"



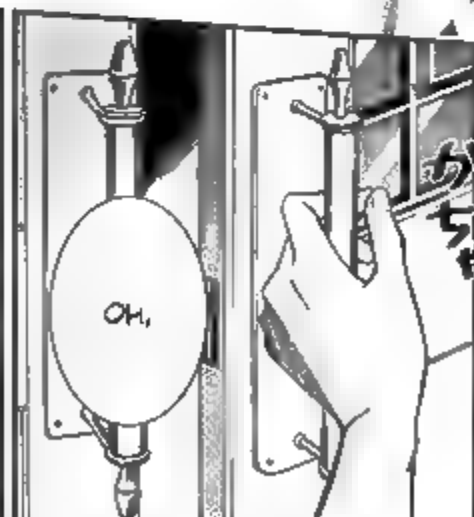
ABOUT
YOUR
QUESTION
BEFORE.



KANOKO
GETS
ANGRY?

KANOKO-
KUN'S
GOING TO
GET MAD
AT ME.

I FORGOT
TO LOCK
THE DOOR
AGAIN.



OH,

SFX OPEN



Isn't it
astounding
that Kanoko
gets mad?

And that
this person
gets scolded
by Kanoko?!

Ran
away?!

She's
really
strict

OR THAT
TIME WHEN
WE RAN AWAY
BECAUSE I
COULDN'T PAY
THE RENT.

LIKE WHEN
I KEEP
RACKING UP
MY BILLS AT
THE RESTAU-
RANT NEXT
DOOR,

OR WHEN
I EAT FOOD
THAT I'VE
DROPPED
ON THE
GROUND,

SHE GETS
ANGRY
A LOT

Kano-
ko...



The
Kanoko
who
always

hangs
her head in
sadness every
time something
bad happens.



OR
WHEN

PEOPLE LIE
TO MAKE
OTHERS
LOOK BAD.



creak

COME
IN.

Laughing,

singing.

WE SING
AND DANCE
TOGETHER.

SHE
LAUGHS A
LOT, EATS
A LOT,



YOU,

KANOKO-KUN IS OUT RIGHT NOW,

BUT I
THINK SHE'LL
BE HOME
SOON.



WON'T TELL
ME THAT
YOU'LL LEAVE
WITHOUT
MEETING
HER,

WILL
YOU?

Until
now

was
so scared
of hurting
her with
little lies,



"If some lie
gets mixed
up..."

"Someone who
can detect lies
can also know the
truth, right?"

that I never
got to tell so
many things
that are true.

I

I don't
think

I've ever seen
Kanoko's
powers in
that light.





KANOKO-
KUN'S
FAVORITE
FLAVOR
IS SOY
SAUCE.

Mine is
seaweed.



CALLED
'TSUKU-
MOYAKI'.



that I've
always,

There's
some-
thing



always
wanted
to tell her.

"I'm sorry I
wasn't able
to do anything
for you."

"You're not
a bad person,
Kanoko."







I want
to see you
soon.

